

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5	In re Application of: Birk et al.)	Group Art Unit: 3763
)	
	Application No.: 10/562,964)	
)	Examiner: Manuel A. Mendez
	Filing Date: December 30, 2005)	
)	Confirmation No.: 4253
10	For: IMPLANTABLE DEVICE FASTENING)	
	SYSTEM AND METHODS OF USE)	Customer No.: 51957
	_____)	

15 Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 23213-1450

20 **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, please note the following amendments and remarks.

25 **Listing** of the claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.